

## **SECTION 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY**

### **1.1 INTRODUCTION**

The purpose of this document is to present public comments and responses to comments received on Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) 37-03 for the Long Beach Airport Terminal Area Improvement Project (State Clearinghouse Number 200309112). The project is located in Los Angeles County, California in the City of Long Beach.

The DEIR was circulated for an 84-day public review and comment period beginning November 7, 2005 and ending January 30, 2006. In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15088, the City of Long Beach, as the lead agency, has evaluated the comments received on the Draft EIR and has prepared written responses to all comments received during that comment period.

As required by CEQA Guidelines §15132(d), the final EIR shall consist of:

- (a) The draft EIR or a revision of the draft.
- (b) Comments and recommendations received on the draft EIR either verbatim or in summary.
- (c) A list of persons, organizations, and public agencies commenting on the draft EIR.
- (d) The responses of the Lead Agency to significant environmental points raised in the review and consultation process.
- (e) Any other information added by the Lead Agency.

Comments submitted on the Draft EIR included questions about conclusions identified in the draft EIR; findings and methodology for preparation of technical analyses; position statements for/against the project; and comments about community issues and issues of a broader regional context. Responses have been provided to comments on significant environmental points describing the disposition of issues, explanations of the EIR analysis, supporting EIR conclusions, and new information or clarifications, as appropriate. The document does not respond to the comments on the merits of the project nor does it attempt to solve regional issues.

Public Resources Code Section 21092.5 requires the lead agency to provide a copy of the written response to each public agency that commented on the EIR. The response must be provided to the agency a minimum of 10 days prior to the lead agency's certification of the final EIR. The City of Long Beach will send copies of the Responses to Comments to the public agencies that commented and notifications to all parties that commented on the DEIR of the availability of the comments and responses on the City's web site ten days prior to certification of the EIR.

The Response to Comments document has been organized in two volumes. Volume 1 contains copies of all the comments received. Volume 2 provides the responses to comments and is divided into four sections: Section 1, provides the introduction; Section 2 provides a list of respondents to the Draft EIR; Section 3 contains responses to environmental comments received on the environmental document; and Section 4 provides errata and clarifications that have been made to the Draft EIR based on the comments received. By having it bound in two

volumes the reviewer can have both the comment and response open to facility easy referencing.